

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 00178 051913Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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O P 051827Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0361
AMEMBASSY PARIS NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 0178

EXDIS

PARIS FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE SECRETARY AND

ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, IS, EG
SUBJ: ARRANGEMENTS FOR MILITARY COMMITTEE AND POLITICAL
COMMITTEES MEETINGS IN CAIRO AND JERUSALEM

REF: (A) CAIRO 82, (B) TEL AVIV 123, (C) CAIRO 385

1. RE MILITARY COMMITTEE MEETINGS. REF A OBVIOUSLY
CROSSED WITH REF B. I TOOK OCCASION OF MEETING
JANUARY 5 WITH BEGIN AND DAYAN TO CONFIRM ISRAELI
DESIRES IN REGARD TO TIMING. BEGIN SUPPORTED POSITION
TAKEN EARLIER BY WEIZMAN AND SAID THAT ISRAEL WOULD
LIKE TO HAVE THE TWO MEETINGS BEGIN SIMULTANEOUSLY ON
THE 15TH. INCIDENTALLY, WEIZMAN HAS BEEN SICK WITH
INFLUENZA FOR SEVERAL DAYS AND IS STILL NOT BACK TO
WORK. HE CLEARLY WOULD NOT BE PHYSICALLY READY TO
MEET ON THE 9TH IN ANY EVENT.

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2. RE POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING IN JERUSALEM. I
TOLD BEGIN AND DAYAN THAT WE WOULD HAVE FOR THEM
PROBABLY TOMORROW THE EGYPTIAN COUNTERPROPOSALS FOR
THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE AGENDA. BEGIN ASKED US TO TRY
TO FIND OUT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FROM THE EGYPTIANS WHO
WOULD BE THE RANKING MEMBERS OF THE EGYPTIAN DELEGATION,
SPECIFICALLY WHETHER ANYONE OF MINISTERIAL RANK BESIDES

KAMEL WOULD BE COMING. BEGIN SAID WRYLY THAT IT COULD BE VERY HELPFUL TO HIM POLITICALLY HERE TO HAVE THE ANSWER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. (HE WAS REFERRING TO THE BEHIND-THE-SCENES STRUGGLE WHICH HAS BEEN GOING ON WITHIN THE CABINET OVER THIS QUESTION.) BEGIN'S IDEA OF HAVING SHARON AS DAYAN'S DEPUTY FOR THE ISRAELI DELEGATION HAS CREATED GREAT PROBLEMS WITH THE OTHER COALITION PARTNERS. I SUSPECT HE WOULD BE HAPPY TO LEARN THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE PERSON OF MINISTERIAL RANK IN ORDER TO MAKE IT EASIER TO RESOLVE HIS OWN PROBLEM HERE. BUT IN ANY CASE, HE WOULD BE GRATEFUL TO KNOW WHO THE RANKING MEMBERS WILL BE. AND WITH RESPECT TO TV AND PRESS COVERAGE HERE, DAYAN SAID THEY WOULD BE ANXIOUS TO KNOW SOME IDEA ABOUT NUMBERS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE PROBLEM OF HOTEL SPACE.

3. RE KAMEL'S CONTINUED WORRIES ABOUT CONFERENCE SITE (REF C), ISRAELIS HAVE NOW MADE DEFINITE DECISION TO MOVE CONFERENCE TO JERUSALEM HILTON. SPACE AT VAN LEER INSTITUTE WAS INADEQUATE, AND SECURITY LESS SATISFACTORY. SINCE EGYPTIAN DELEGATION WILL ALSO BE HOUSED AT HILTON, THIS SHOULD PUT HIS CONCERN TO REST. WE ARE ASKING FOR URGENT ADVICE FROM SECRETARY WHETHER HE WISHES US TO TRY P REPEAT TRY TO MOVE US DELEGATION TO HILTON FROM KING DAVID.

LEWIS

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